

REMARKS

This Amendment is being filed in response to the Office Action mailed October 10, 2008 which has been reviewed and carefully considered. Reconsideration and allowance of the present application in view of the remarks to follow are respectfully requested.

Claims 1-7 and 9-16 remain in this application, where claim 8 has been canceled without prejudice, and claims 12-16 have been added. Claims 1, 9, 11 and 12 are independent. Applicant reserves the right to reintroduce subject matter deleted herein at a later time during the prosecution of this application or continuing applications.

In the Office Action, the Examiner required a formal drawing of FIG 1 where the legend Prior Art is hand written, as submitted in a Replacement Sheet with the Amendment filed on May 13, 2008. Applicants will submit formal drawings upon preparation thereof for filing on or before any issue fee due date noted on any Notice of Allowance.

In the Office Action, claim 8 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. §101 and §112, first paragraph. Without agreeing with the position forwarded in the Office Action, and in the interest of advancing prosecution, claim 8 has been cancelled without prejudice. The cancellation of claim 8 renders moot these rejections under 35 U.S.C. §101 and §112, first paragraph.

In the Office Action, the Examiner indicated that claims 1-7 and 9-11 are allowed. Applicant gratefully acknowledges the indication that claims 1-7 and 9-11 are allowed. By means of the present amendment, new independent claim 12 has been added that includes features similar to the features of the allowable claim 9.

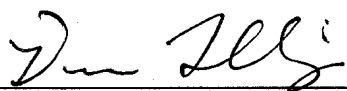
Accordingly, it is respectfully requested that independent claim 12 be allowed. In addition, it is respectfully requested that claims 13-16 also be allowed at least based on their dependence from independent claim 12 as well as their individually patentable elements.

In addition, Applicant denies any statement, position or averment of the Examiner that is not specifically addressed by the foregoing argument and response. Any rejections and/or points of argument not addressed would appear to be moot in view of the

presented remarks. However, the Applicant reserves the right to submit further arguments in support of the above stated position, should that become necessary. No arguments are waived and none of the Examiner's statements are conceded.

In view of the above, it is respectfully submitted that the present application is in condition for allowance, and a Notice of Allowance is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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